## 01100

1962/11/07

DEPARTMENT OF STATE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

November 7. 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT: U Thant's Proposed Appeal to Castro to Invite Latin American Ambassadors in Havana to Verify Removal of Soviet Offensive Weapons.

Just before lunch today. U Thant sent Ralph Bunche over to the U. S. Mission where he conveyed the following to Adlai Stevenson, McCloy, and Yost, emphasizing the highly sensitive nature of the subject and urging that on no account should this suggestion reach the press in any way since this would foredoom it to failure:

The Secretary General has reports that Mikoyan is getting nowhere in pursuading the Cubans to accept UK verification of the removal of Cuban missiles. He therefore asks our reactions to his appealing to Castro to invite the five Latin American Ambassadors in Cuba (representing Boliva, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and Uruguay) to conduct the sort of after the fact verification to which the Soviets are prepared to agree, i.e., inspection of dismantled sites. loading of missiles on ships, etc.

Ambassador Stevenson gave the following personal reaction to Eunche:

This would be no substitute for the alongside inspection of Russian vessels at sea, but might be a useful supplement to it provided that the Ambassadors were given the widest possible latitude. He urged that in the event Washington agreed to pursuing this matter that U Thant obtain from Castro authority for the Ambassadors not only to visit the ports and missile sites but also follow up any reports they receive on the concealing of missiles in caves, etc.

Charlies Yost and others in New York think this idea has some promise and request urgent consideration and - instructions.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

( ) DENY

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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